



Green Party of Sacramento County
P.O. Box 7531, Citrus Heights, CA 95621

April 4, 2019

Assemblymember Reginald Jones-Sawyer Sr.

Chair, Assembly Public Safety Committee

Legislative Office Building, 1020 N Street, Room 111

Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SUPPORT AB 392 ("Peace Officers: deadly force")

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Green Party of Sacramento County, I am writing to register our support for AB 392 and respectfully urge your support for this important bill, as well.

In Sacramento County, the murder of unarmed Stephon Clark (2018) by Sacramento police officers, has been a notable example of why there is such a great need to write necessary police reforms into legislation. The current law dates back to 1872 and is in immediate need of revision. The purpose behind AB 392 is to amend this outdated legislation in order to hold police officers accountable for their actions when deadly force is used. Within the Green Party's Key Values, we hold *Social Justice*, and under this value, we see the need for changes in the language of the law which would encourage prosecution and accountability when police officers act in a dangerous and irresponsible manner with their weapons and authority, putting the public's safety at risk. Public safety should be a top priority in our state.

As the law currently stands, there is very little incentive for police officers to perform their duties in a way which holds public safety as a priority because there is little to no chance of prosecution when incidents happen. AB 392 aims to change this, and though we feel it does not go far enough, and would like to see more clearly-defined codes regarding what constitutes, "necessary force," and would like to see drug-testing and psychological evaluations done on officers after incidents occur, we still feel this proposed bill is a big and necessary step in the right direction.

Similar laws which have been implemented in Seattle and Cleveland have seen positive results in a reduction in use of deadly force from police. We now have the opportunity to keep this trend going in our great state, as well!

Supporting AB 392 is the just thing to do. The public must have the protection which comes with legal accountability of our police departments. Again, we strongly urge the members of this committee to show support for this bill and we thank you for taking the time to read our testimony.

Nicole Castor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nicole Castor', written in a cursive style.

Co-Coordinator

County Council of the Green Party of Sacramento County